LEEK URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

Medical Officer of Health for 1963

PREPARED BY
H. E. WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health for the District

and

J. ROWBOTHAM, M.P.H.I.A., Asso. M.C.T., M.R.S.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector

Leek Urban District Council.

With the Compliments
of the Medical Officer of Health.

TOWN HALL,
LEEK.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE 1963

Councillor JOHN SALES, J.P., Chairman

Councillor Mrs. D. Blake	Councillor Mrs. E. Murfin
Councillor Rev. N. Turner	Councillor H. Hood
Councillor S. J. Smith	Councillor C. Morton
Councillor E. F. Shaw	Councillor V. Whiteman

Councillor T.S. Barlow, C.C.*

Councillor W.E. Grundy.*

Councillor J. Fowler, Vice-Chairman of the Council

* Leek Area Health Committee Representatives

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29724326

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
10, STOCKWELL STREET,
LEEK.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leek Urban District Council

I beg to submit my third Annual Report. The Annual Report for 1963 has been prepared in accordance with Circular 1/64 of the Ministry of Health.

POPULATION. The Registrar General's figure for the estimated mid-year home population is 19,290 compared with 19,310 in 1962, a decrease of 20.

BIRTH RATE. There has been an increase in the number of live births compared with the previous year. In 1962, 259 births occurred whilst in 1963 there was a total of 313. Further details will be found on page 3.

Adjusted birthrate of 17.8 (comparability factor 1.10) compared with a national birthrate of 18.2. The proportion of illegitimate live births was 3.5% there being 11. The national figure for 1963 is 6.9%.

STILL BIRTHS. The number of still births per 1,000 of total births during the year being 12.6 against a national average for England and Wales of 16.8.

INFANT MORTALITY. In 1963 a total of 4 deaths occurred under one year of age. Further details will be found on page 3.

DEATHS. There was 271 deaths in 1963 compared with 268 in the previous year. The following causes of death are of interest:

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system (neglecting hypertension with heart disease)	101	37%
Malignant Disease	53	20%
Infections (Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Tubercuolosis)	33	12%

Further details will be found on page 4.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The most important in terms of numbers during 1963 was the outbreak of measles in the district, 358 cases having been notified during the year.

A further 28 cases of dysentery were notified, none occurred during the last quarter of the year. Intensive follow up of cases was undertaken and every effort made to limit spread and bring to an end this unpleasant illness. Improved standards of personal hygiene are most important in preventing spread of this disease.

THE MOUNT RESERVOIR. Work was commenced during the year on covering and making the reservoir watertight as well as increasing its total capacity. This is a most important improvement in safeguarding the water supply from contamination and was advocated not only in my previous annual reports but also those of my predecessor Dr. P. G. Cannon.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL. Designed to treat a daily average dry weather flow of 1,025,000 gallons the sewage disposal works had to deal with between 1,800,000 and 2,000,000 gallons, a still further increase on the 1962 figure of 1,700,000 gallons. This is an outstanding problem of which the Leek Urban District Council is fully aware. Not only does the Council intend to remedy this as soon as possible but to include Cheddleton Heath on mains sewerage.

NOISE NUISANCES. Several complaints occurred during 1963 and investigation and the remedying of these nuisances occupied much time and effort. A sound level meter was found to be of great value, not so much in assessing whether a noise was a nuisance or not but in recording the amount of reduction achieved.

My experience in dealing with noise nuisances suggests that one can never satisfy complainants unless the offending noise ceases, as opposed to reducing the intensity. Noise can certainly cause great distress and many victims seem to become pre-occupied with listening for it. I am convinced that a noise of low intensity which would normally pass almost unnoticed is bitterly resented by people previously subjected to the same noise at a much greater intensity.

May I, on concluding this report express my appreciation for the very capable and willing help which I received during the year from your Public Health Inspectors and other members of the Health Department Staff.

H. E. WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.O., D.P.H.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

	1962	1963
Area (in acres)	4,315	4,306
Registrar General's mid-year estimate of home population (all ages)	19,310	19,290
Number of inhabited houses in the Rate Book at end of year	6,892	6,912
Number of persons per house	2.8	2.8
Number of persons per acre	4.4	4.5
Rateable value at 31st March	£228,644	£650,703
Sum represented by a penny rate for financial year ended 31st March	£929	£2,644

VITAL STATISTICS

	Male	Female	Total
Live births	178	135	313
(Illegitimate births)	9	5	14
Live birth rate per 1,000 population			16.23
Adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 1.10)			17.84
Birth rate (England and Wales) 18.8			
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births 4.47			
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births (England and Wales) . 6.9			

NOTE ON ADJUSTED BIRTH RATE

Local birth rates are usually expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including many who quite obviously have no influence on the reproductive process. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a preponderance of them in the population of an area tends to lower and a small proportion of them to raise, the true rate. Considerable variation in the size of this proportion exists in different areas, and it is therefore apparent that the elimination or standardisation of such a factor enables a truer comparison between areas.

A result on these lines is obtained through the issue by the Registrar General of a comparability factor for each area for use with birth rates. The adjusted birth rate resulting from the multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by its comparability factor may be regarded as being comparable with the adjusted rate of any other area or with the crude rate for England and Wales.

		Male	Female	Total
Still births ...		1	3	1
(Illegitimate)		0	0	0
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	12.62			
Still birth rate (England and Wales) ...	16.8			
Total live and still births		179	138	317
(Illegitimate)		9	5	14

		Male	Female	Total
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year of age		3	1	1
(Illegitimate)		1	1	2
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.78			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births Legitimate	6.69			
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births Illegitimate	142.9			
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales)	22			
Neonatal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks of age) (Illegitimate)		0	0	0
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first 4 weeks)	0			
Neonatal mortality rate (England and Wales)	14.2			
Early neonatal mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 live births ... ... (Deaths under 1 week were 0)	0			
Perinatal mortality rate (still births plus deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live and still births ...	12.62			
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	0			
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	0			
Maternal mortality rate (England and Wales)	0.28			

		Male	Female	Total
DEATHS — ALL AGES ...		133	138	271
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	14.05			
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor .90)	12.56			

NOTE: This comparability factor is obtained and used on a similar principle to that for comparability for births.

Death rate (England and Wales) ... 13.4

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1963

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
Measles	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	4	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	18	29
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	0	2
Diabetes	2	0	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	17	39
Coronory disease, angina	36	18	54
Hypertension with heart disease	1	5	6
Other heart disease	8	29	37
Other circulatory disease	8	3	11
Pneumonia	5	10	15
Bronchitis	9	8	17
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis and Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	0	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	1	3
Other defined an ill-defined diseases	8	15	23
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	1	0	1
	133	138	271

NOTE ON CAUSE OF DEATH:

MALIGNANT DISEASE (Cancer). This caused 53 deaths, i.e 19.6% of all deaths.

In 1957, 20.9%; in 1958, 22.6%; in 1959, 23.0%; in 1960, 18.7%; in 1961, 20%; in 1962, 17.2%; in 1963, 19.6%.

Cancer of the lung killed 4 men and 1 woman in 1963, i.e. 9.4% of all cancer deaths. This figure has shown a rise in the last few years until 1961; in 1956, 9.3% of all cancer deaths were due to cancer of the lung, in 1957, 14.3%; in 1958, 15.1%; in 1959, 15.3%; in 1960, 23.9%; in 1961, 14%; in 1962, 21.7% and in 1963, 9.4%.

If we consider all the deaths which have occurred in the last 7 years then cancer of the lung was responsible for, in 1957, 3%; in 1958, 3.4%; in 1959, 3.5%; in 1960, 4.4%; in 1961, 3.4%; in 1962, 3.7%, and in 1963, 1.84%.

Those deaths due to cancer of the lung were in males between 55 and 64 years 3, and above 75 years 1, and in females between 65 and 74 years 1.

HEART DISEASE. 87 deaths were due to this, i.e. 37.3% of all deaths (in 1962 it was 38%).

BRONCHITIS. This common complaint had 17 deaths as a result in 1963, 6.3% of all deaths compared with 2.6% in 1962.

SUICIDE. One male aged 19 years who died from coal gas poisoning.

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN 1963

1. MOTOR VEHICLE. One occurred, a male aged 48 years who while riding a motor cycle collided with the rear of a motor lorry. Death resulted from shock due to multiple head injuries.

2. ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS. Three in all, one a male over 75 years and two females, one over 65 years and the other over 75 years of age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY 1963

Deaths under 1 year of age:

Female	aged 3 months	— Acute bronchiolitis.
Male	aged 1 month	— Intestinal obstruction due to volvulus of the small intestine.
Male	aged 5 months	— Congestive morbus cordis.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES:

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Herbert Edward Wilson, M.B., Ch.B., D.O., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.
2. James Rowbotham, M.P.H.I.A., Assoc. M.C.T., M.R.S.H., Chief Public Health Inspector.
3. Edgar Norris Whitehead, M.M., M.P.H.I.A., Public Health Inspector.

The Urban District Council is the sanitary authority responsible for the environmental services.

The local authority has no major responsibilities under the National Health Service Act, 1946. The sanitary administration of the district has not been altered by it. The County Council is both Local Health and Local Sanitary Authority as well as Local Education Authority. It is responsible for the following services: Maternity and Child Welfare, Domiciliary Midwifery, Vaccination and Immunisation, an Ambulance Service, a Health Visiting Service, the administration of the Mental Services, "care and after care" and the provision of Home Nursing and "home helps." Section 21 of the Act imposes on the County Council the duty of providing Health Centres.

The following are the principal services provided by the County Council and utilised by the inhabitants of the urban district.

1. AMBULANCE SERVICES (Section 27)

No change occurred in these during the year.

There are 3 ambulances and 4 sitting cars and a staff of 23 consisting of 1 officer in charge and 22 drivers.

Radio reception is fitted to 2 sitting cars and 2 of the ambulances.

2. MATERNITY, HOME NURSING AND DOMESTIC HELP SERVICES (Sections 23, 25 and 29)

There are three County Council midwives — two full time and one part time. Leek also has two district nurses. The Leek Area Health Committee, under Section 29, is responsible for the appointment of domestic helps. Their function is to give assistance in the house during the incapacity of a wife or mother, and they do not undertake any duties of a nursing character.

Working in the Leek Urban District are approximately 36 domestic helps and the number of hours worked each week is approximately 736

The County Council is responsible for other special health services — Maternity and Child Welfare and the School Health Service. There are three Health Visitors available for Ante-Natal work and for the supervision of nursing mothers and children. Under the direction of the Chest Physician, all have duties of visiting the tuberculous.

LABORATORY FACILITIES (Part, Section 26)

Leek is served by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. It is a component of a free national laboratory service for England and Wales. The work of the Laboratory is designed to assist the Medical Officer of Health and the general practitioners, in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. Its activities include the examination of throat and nose swabs, sputum, blood and excreta of human origin as aids to diagnosis of suspected or actual infectious diseases. Its sanitary work includes mainly the bacteriological examination of drinking water, the testing of sampled milk for cleanliness and for the presence of the tubercle bacillus and other pathogenic organisms, and the bacteriological testing of ice cream, synthetic cream, and shellfish as distributed to the user or consumer. Its staff is available to participate in the investigation of outbreaks of infectious disease in the area which it serves, with the general aim of preventing or controlling disease.

The laboratory distributes in the prevention of disease, diphtheria prophylactic and calf lymph for smallpox vaccination. It makes available measles prophylactic for the passive immunisation of contacts and distributes outfits for the collection of pathological material.

The following reports were received from the laboratory during the year on specimens submitted.

SPUTUM. During 1963 the laboratory service investigated 29 specimens of sputum submitted for examination for the tubercle bacillus by the Chest Physician. All the specimens were examined by

direct microscopy and none were found to be positive. All were examined by cultural examination and 1 of these was found to be positive for tubercle bacillus.

The general practitioners submitted a total of 18 specimens of sputum during the year. All were examined by direct examination for tubercle bacilli, and all were negative. Cultural examination was made and these results were also negative.

THROAT SWABS. 13 throat swabs were taken in 1963 by the general practitioners. 8 were positive for haemolytic streptococci. No diphtheria bacilli were isolated. One showed a moderate growth of coliforms and one yeasts.

FÆCES. A total of 288 were sent for examination during the year, 2 were positive for salmonella typhimurium, and 28 for shigella sonnei.

BLOOD SPECIMENS. 5 specimens were sent by a general practitioner. All were negative.

FOOD SAMPLES. The laboratory was also used for the examination of ice cream samples during 1963.

MILK. The laboratory continues to report on the results of general bacteriological tests and biological tests for tubercle bacilli in samples of milk submitted to it by the County Council Milk Sampling Officer — milk sold in the Urban District.

During the year, a total of 227 samples were taken.

170 samples were sumbitted to the METHELYN BLUE test, a test for ordinary bacteriological cleanliness, 14 samples failed to pass the test. Failures were in Tuberculin tested 6, Tuberculin tested pasteurised 7, and pasteurised milk 1.

Of the 134 samples of pasteurised milk examined by the PHOSPHATASE TEST — to ascertain the effectivness of the process — 2 failed the test.

All 37 samples of sterilised milk submitted to the TURBIDITY TEST were satisfactory. Sterilised milk is very safe indeed, and in my opinion should be much more popular than it is at present.

BIOLOGICAL TESTS for the presence of tubercle bacilli were carried out on 22 samples of tuberculin tested milk, all of which were satisfactory.

BRUCELLOSIS. This is a disease almost invariably transmitted to human beings by drinking infected milk. Samples are taken as a routine measure to ascertain whether the milk is infected, in 1963 no samples were found to be positive.

The preventative measures in this disease are hindered by the fact that the organism may be excreted intermittently by the cow, the length of time taken by the laboratory to undertake the biological test and that Brucellosis is not a notifiable disease.

The most effective measure against contracting this disease is to drink pasteurised or sterilised milk only.

A table showing the results of the tests made in 1963 is on page 23.

HOSPITALS. The following hospitals are available for various forms of treatment: General, acute and chronic, sanatoria, mental and infectious diseases Bucknall Hospital; Memorial Hospital, Leek; North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary; Haywood Hospital; Orthopædic Hospital, Hartshill; Longton Cottage Hospital; City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent; Moorlands Hospital, Leek; Cheadle Hospital; Westcliffe Hospital; Chell; Groundslow Sanatorium and Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Loggerheads, near Market Drayton; St. Edward's Hospital, Leek; Biddulph Grange Orthopædic Hospital; Limewood Hospital, Newcastle and Stanfield Hospital, Burslem (both for chronic sick). All are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board through the Local Area Management Committees.

Maternity cases, in an emergency, are received at the City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent. Part of the maternity wing of the Haywood Hospital is now available for normal cases without charge and part is still on a fee-paying basis (private beds).

MORTUARY. The Council's mortuary is situated in Condlyffe Road. Essential equipment is provided by the local authority and a mortuary attendant is available when required.

The Mortuary was used for 12 persons during 1963. No post mortems were performed, the last being carried out on March 8th, 1958, due to the resignation of the local police surgeon, no successor being available to do this particular part of his duties. Post mortems are now carried out at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary.

WATER SUPPLY

Leek receives its water from two sources. One is a series of springs in the Upperhulme area, from which the water is collected and piped to the town; the other is a borehole at Poolend from which the water is pumped to the service reservoirs which are situated on the Mount.

Chlorination is practised since bacteriological examination has shown it to be necessary. Each supply is chlorinated at source and further doses are added before the water passes into the service reservoir.

I am pleased to report that the covering of the open Mount reservoir is now taking place. During the year under review one half of the reservoir was actually being covered consequently the remaining half only was in use during the period. The remaining portion of the reservoir is to be covered immediately the first portion is completed.

Special precautions were taken to ensure that the water in the open part of the reservoir was not contaminated by reason of the work going on in the area. A series of sewer swabs were taken, the swabs being inserted in the drain serving the W.C.s erected for the men working on the site. The object of this essential precaution was to find out at once should any of the workers be suffering from a disease which might infect the water supply. It is quite possible for a person to be a "carrier" of typhoid or similar disease and to be unaware of his condition. The contamination of a reservoir by such a person could entail very serious consequences. No organisms of the dangerous types were found in any of the swabs taken.

BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS AFTER CHLORINATION

	No. of Samples taken	Result Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
January	17	17	
February	11	11	
March	15	15	
April	16	16	
May	14	13	1
June	11	14	
July	18	18	
August	4	4	
September	14	11	3
October	20	20	
November	16	16	
December	10	10	
Total	169	165	1

Regular samples of water are taken for bacteriological examination.

Of the 169 samples of water taken, four were unsatisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, three were taken in September, and were not accounted for by any specific cause. The fact that water is drawn from springs which are directly affected by rainfall, and that the water is stored in open reservoirs renders the supply liable to some variation in quality. Repeat samples did not disclose any continuing source of contamination.

The open reservoir also encourages the growth of algæ in the water, which can produce unpleasant though harmless discolouration. Gnats and similar insects also deposit their eggs in unprotected sheets of water, and trouble sometimes ensues from minute larval forms of these insects. Again it must be emphasised that these animalcule are harmless and carry no disease, but the covering of the reservoirs should prevent this type of contamination occurring and very much reduce the labours of the Water Engineer in coping with such problems.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLY

Two samples were taken during the year: both were of satisfactory quality. The analysis are shown below.

An examination of the water to ascertain its fluorine content was also made, following the reception of representations from the County Council asking for the Council's views on the desirability of adding fluoride to the water.

The fluoride content of the mixed water was found to be 0.05 parts per million.

Poolend Pumping Station	Parts per million
pH. 6.2	
Total Solid Matter Dried at 212°F	140.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	2.5
Chlorine present as Chloride	17.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	Nil
Appearance	Clean and colourless
Metallic Contamination	Nil

Upperhulme Spring Supply	Parts per million
pH. 6.8	
Total Solid Matter Dried at 212°F	100.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	0.032
Nitric Nitrogen	Nil
Chlorine present as Chloride	15.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F	0.08
Appearance ... ... Clear and colourless	
Metallic Contamination	Nil

Previous analyses indicate that the water is satisfactory from the point of view of metallic contamination.

There are only four houses that are not served from the mains supply. All stand-pipes have been abolished.

SWIMMING BATHS. The swimming baths are an old structure in the centre of the town and at present consist of one swimming pool of small size and several slipper baths. The water used for filling is mains water (chlorinated for domestic use). Treatment in the baths is by heating, filtration through a Bell pressure filter, with gas chlorination. The water is changed every 4 hours.

The swimming baths were kept open during the winter.

During the year 41 samples were taken for bacteriological testing, 2 of these were unsatisfactory. In one case no explanation was found. The other was due to a temporary failure in the chlorination apparatus.

SEWERAGE. The sewage disposal works is situated at Leekbrook and is designed to treat a daily average dry weather flow of 1,025,000 gallons. During 1963 the daily average dry weather flow was between 1,800,000 and 2,000,000 gallons and although no adverse report regarding treatment was received there is no doubt that the system is very seriously overloaded.

Leekbrook and Cheddleton Heath are the only areas so far not on main sewers, apart from a relatively small number of isolated properties.

SECTION C

Prevalence of and control over infectious and other disease:

The prevalence of infectious disease during the year showed an increase compared to the previous year. The total number of confirmed notifications was 449, compared with 95 in 1962, 487 in 1961, 237 in 1960 and 778 in 1959.

A table showing the notifications of infectious diseases during 1963 appears in the Report on page 17.

Leek is fortunate in that the Infectious Disease Isolation Hospital for the area is at Bucknall — a comparatively short distance away. This receives all types of infectious disease apart from smallpox, which is treated at the Witton Smallpox Hospital, Birmingham. Bucknall Hospital is administered by the Stoke-on-Trent Hospital Management Committee. Admission is arranged directly by the local general practitioners and transport is provided by the local ambulance service.

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education Memorandum on the exclusion from school on account of infectious illness, appears on pages 18, 19 and 20.

DIPHTHERIA. There were no cases of diphtheria notified during the year. The average number of births per year during the last 5 years is 266. The number of children who completed a primary course of immunisation in 1963 was 121 representing 45.5% of the new members of the population. Re-immunisation amounted to 50 or 18.8%. A figure of at least 75% is necessary to maintain adequate community protection.

WHOOPING COUGH. 8 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year.

The number of children completing a primary course of inoculations against the disease was 99 representing a figure of approximately 37.2%. At least 75% of new members to the population should be protected.

POLIOMYELITIS. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. Unfortunately no figures are available for the number of vaccinations against this disease.

SMALLPOX. 69 persons received primary vaccination against smallpox in 1963 in Leek. Of these 24 were under 1 year of age; 11 aged 1; 10 were aged 2-4; 6 were aged 5-14 and 18 aged 15 and over.

SCARLET FEVER. There were 35 cases of this disease during the year. This was an increase on the previous year — 27 cases in 1962, 11 cases in 1961, 16 cases in 1960 and 22 cases in 1959.

MEASLES. This is normally a seasonal disease occurring approximately every other year. In 1963 there were 358 cases compared with 19 in 1962.

DYSENTERY. There were 28 cases of sonne dysentery notified during the year. There is no doubt that the disease is highly infectious within a household or school.

PNEUMONIA. There were 15 cases. In 1962 there were 2 cases.

FOOD POISONING. 2 cases were notified during the year, due to Salmonella typhimurium. These two cases were quite unconnected, not only were they of different phage types but occurred in June and September. The victims were a male aged 13 years and a female aged 17 years.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. No cases were notified during 1963.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. No cases were notified during 1963.

ADMISSIONS TO BUCKNALL HOSPITAL

1. ABORTUS FEVER — 1 male aged 40 years.
2. CONVULSIONS AND PNEUMONIA — 1 male aged 2 years.
3. E COLI INFECTION OF URINARY TRACT — 1 female aged 7 years.
4. ERYTHEMA MULTIFORME — 1 female aged 49 years.
5. FEBRILE CONVULSIONS — 1 male aged 1½ years.

6. GLANDULAR FEVER — 1 female aged 20 years.
7. HEPATITIS (NON-INFECTIVE) — 1 male aged 45 years.
8. IMPETIGO — 1 male aged 2 years.
9. INFECTED UMBILICUS — 1 female aged 17 days.
10. LARYNGO-TRACHEO-BRONCHI — 1 female aged 3 years.
11. LYMPHOCYTIC MENINGITIS — 2 males aged 13 and 38 years.
12. MEASLES — 3 males, 2 aged 3 years and one of 5 years. 1 female aged 2 years.
13. NON-SPECIFIC GASTRO ENTERITIS — 2 females ages 1½ and 2 years. 1 male aged 2 months.
14. PNEUMONIA — 2 males ages 6 and 8 years.
15. TUBERCULOUS PLEURAL EFFUSION — 1 male aged 8 years.
16. ULCERATIVE STOMATITIS — 1 female aged 3 weeks.
17. UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT INFECTION — 1 male aged 6 years.
18. WHOOPING COUGH — 1 female aged 10 months.

TUBERCULOSIS. The year commenced with a total of 78 persons on the register and a further 3 persons were added during the year. It was possible to remove 3 names from the register so that a total number of 78 persons was on the register at the end of 1963.

The pulmonary cases were 2 males aged 8 and 56 years and 1 female aged 42 years.

The proportion of cases in Leek at the end of the year was 4.0 per 1,000 of the population.

The tuberculosis register from time to time needs to be brought up to date to reflect a true picture owing to movement of patients both into and out of the district, and incomplete notification of recoveries. During 1963 every effort was made to check and correct the register. I should like to place on record my appreciation of the help I received from Dr. D. S. Hayes, Chest Physician, and for his willing assistance, thereby enabling me to undertake the work.

The corrected figures are as follows:

Number of cases on register 31.12.63	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non Pulmonary	
	40	4	28	6	78

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1963 for the Urban District of Leek in the County of Stafford

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1 INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written notices (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local Authorities *	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	143	24	4	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	143	24	4	—

* To prevent any differences between the lists kept respectively by the Local Authorities and H.M. Inspectors of Factories of the numbers of factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act, 1937 are enforced by Local Authorities, it is requested that Local Authorities should compare their lists of factories with the lists kept by H.M. Inspectors of Factories.

‡ i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103(1), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

2 Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H M Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	7	Nil	4	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	8	7	Nil	4	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No of prose-cutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose-cutions (7)
Wearing apparel (Making etc.,	47					
Cleaning and Washing)						
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Contd.)
Outwork
(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	2					
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
Total	49		-			

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES — 1963

Numbers of all cases of infectious and other notifiable diseases originally notified, and of the final numbers according to sex and age after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Numbers originally notified	Scarlet Fever		Whooping cough		Acute poliomyelitis: Paralytic		Acute poliomyelitis: Non-paralytic		Measles (excluding rubella)		Diphtheria		Dysentery		Meningococcal infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total (All Ages)	16	19	2	6	—	—	—	—	181	177	—	1	30	37	—	
Final numbers after correction																
Under 1 year									10	3						
1— years				2					19	12			2	1		
2— years	1								18	18			1	1		
3— years		2		2					23	28						
4— years	1	2		1					17	21			3	1		
5—9 years	10	15	1						83	88			5	10		
10—14 years	3								9	2			1			
15—24 years	1								1	3			1			
25 and over									1	2				2		
Age unknown																
Total (all ages)	16	19	1	5	—	—	—	—	181	177	—	—	13	15	—	

Number originally notified	Ac. pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis: Infective		Acute encephalitis: Post-infectious		Enteric or Typhoid fever		Paratyphoid fevers		Erysipelas		Food poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total (All Ages)	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	4	7
Final numbers after correction																
Under 5 years	2														1	
5—14 years	1	2														1
15—44 years	2	1														
45—64 years	1	2														
65 and over	1	3														
Age unknown																
Total (All Ages)	7	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	1	1

Numbers originally notified	Tuberculosis: Respiratory		Tuberculosis: Meninges and C.N.S.		Tuberculosis: Other	
	M	F	F	M	M	F
Total (All Ages)	2	1	—	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction						
Under 5 years						
5—14 years	1					
15—24 years		1				
25—44 years						
45—64 years	1					
65 and over						
Age unknown						
Total (All Ages)	2	1	—	—	—	—

Other notifiable diseases	Original M	Original F	Final M	Final F
Puerperal pyrexia	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—

LEEK U.D. — INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1954-1963 (Confirmed Notifications)

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	40	22	20	45	74	22	16	11	27	35
Whooping Cough	156	24	16	28	2		175		—	8
Measles	223	55	335	21	14	735	2	425	19	358
Pneumonia	10	12	4	28	7	8	3	13	2	15
Dysentery	8	—	2	—	8	5	—	24	38	28
Erysipelas	1	1	3		2	—	—	1	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1		1
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	—	1	13	—	—	—	—	—	
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	3	2	1	3	4	2	33	8	1	2
Tuberculosis:										
Pulmonary	9	4	5	8	6	2	4	3	6	3
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	—	

INCUBATION AND EXCLUSION PERIODS OF THE COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES TAKEN FROM THE MEMORANDUM ISSUED JOINTLY BY THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH

	Usual incubation period (days)	Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days)	PERIOD OF EXCLUSION	
			PATIENTS	Contacts, i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
SCARLET FEVER (and streptococcal sore throat)	2— 5	1— 2	7 days after discharge from hospital or from home isolation. (Unless "cold in the head", discharge from the nose or ear, sore throat, or septic spots be present).	Children — no exclusion. Persons engaged in the preparation or service of school meals to be excluded until Medical Officer of Health certifies that they may resume work.
DIPHTHERIA	2— 5		Until pronounced by a medical practitioner to be fit and free from infection.	At least 7 days. Return to school should not be permitted until bacteriological examination has proved negative.
MEASLES	10—15	3— 4	10 days after the appearance of the rash if child appears well.	Children under 5 years of age should be excluded for 14 days from the date of appearance of the rash in the last case in the house. Other contacts can attend school. Any contact suffering from a cough, cold, chill or red eyes should be immediately excluded. A child who is known with certainty to have had the disease need not be excluded.
GERMAN MEASLES	14—21	0— 2	7 days from the appearance of the rash.	None.

	Usual incubation period (days)	Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days)	PERIOD OF EXCLUSION	
			PATIENTS	Contacts, i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement
WHOOPING COUGH	7 — 10	—	28 days from the beginning of the characteristic cough.	Children under 7 years of age should be excluded for 21 days from the date of onset of the disease in the last case in the house. A child who is known with certainty to have had the disease need not be excluded.
MUMPS	12 — 28	—	7 days from the subsidence of all swelling.	None.
CHICKEN POX	11 — 21	0 — 2	14 days from the date of appearance of the rash.	None.
POLIOMYELITIS	7 — 14	—	At least 6 weeks Will usually require a much longer period for recovery.	At least 21 days.
ENCEPHALITIS	4 — 30	—		
CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER (Meningococcal Infection)	2 — 10	—		
DYSENTERY	2 — 7	—	Until pronounced by medical practitioner to be free from infection.	Home contacts: None unless excluded by the School Medical Officer, Medical Officer of Health or Medical Practitioner. Class contacts with diarrhoea, abdominal pain or vomiting, should be excluded immediately.

	Usual incubation period (days	Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days	PERIOD OF EXCLUSION	
			PATIENTS	Contacts, i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
TYPHOID FEVER	8 — 21	—	Until pronounced by medical practitioner to be free from infection.	Home contacts: Until bacteriological examination has proved negative. Class contacts with diarrhoea or who are otherwise unwell, should be excluded immediately.
PARATYPHOID FEVER	5 — 21	—	do.	do.
SMALLPOX	10 — 21	3	Until the patient is pronounced by a medical practitioner to be free from infection.	21 days unless recently successfully vaccinated when exclusion is unnecessary.
INFECTIVE HEPATITIS (Catarrhal Jaundice)	21 — 35	—	14 days or on disappearance of jaundice, whichever is the longer.	Home or school contacts with vomiting should be excluded for 14 days.
INFLUENZA	1 — 5	—	Until free from symptoms.	None.

NOTE: STAFF WHO DEVELOP OR ARE IN CONTACT WITH STAPHYOCOCCAL INFECTIONS likely to cause food poisoning, e.g. septic infections of the hands, forearms and face, should be immediately suspended from duty and not permitted to resume work until the Medical Officer of Health has stated that it is reasonably safe for them to do so.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Population	18,950	18,990	19,080	19,230	19,300	19,310	19,290
No. of inhabited houses ..	6,517	6,587	6,638	6,710	6,726	6,892	6,912
No. of live births	271	295	249	260	252	259	313
Birth rate (crude) .	14.3	15.5	13.1	13.5	13.05	13.4	16.23
No. of still births . . .	5	10	12	9	2	9	4
Maternal mortality	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Infant mortality rate	14.8	16.9	8.0	23.08	19.84	19.31	12.78
Infant mortality (No. of deaths)	4	5	2	6	5	5	4
No. of deaths (all ages)	201	234	256	248	292	268	271
Death rate (crude) ..	10.6	12.3	13.4	12.92	9.96	13.9	14.05

IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

The complete scheme which should now be followed is summarised below:—

Age	Vaccine	Interval between doses
3rd month	1st Triple	4 to 6 weeks
4th month	2nd Triple	
5th month	3rd Triple	
6th month	1st oral polio	4 to 6 weeks
7th month	2nd oral polio	
8th month	3rd oral polio	
During 2nd year 18 months to 2 years	Smallpox Triple booster	
School entry	Dip/Tet booster	See note below
	Smallpox (Re-vaccination only)	
End of Junior School	Dip/Tet booster (half-dose)	
Secondary School	B.C.G.	

*The minimum interval between the Dip/Tet booster and the smallpox re-vaccination is two weeks; if the re-vaccination is done first, the minimum interval is three weeks.

LEEK URBAN DISTRICT — MILK SAMPLING 1963

BY COUNTY COUNCIL MILK SAMPLING OFFICER

Designation	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test		Biological Test			
							For T.B.		For Brucella Abortus	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Negative	Positive	Negative	Positive
Tuberculin Tested	37	6	—	—	—	—	22	—	1	—
T.T. Pasteurised ...	93	7	104	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pasteurised ...	26	1	28	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	—	—	—	—	37	—	—	—	—	—
Total	156	14	132	2	37	—	22	—	1	—

1 sample of T.T. Milk submitted to Biological Test only.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
10, STOCKWELL STREET,
LEEK, STAFFS.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

To the Chairman and Members of the Leek Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my thirtieth Annual Report for the year 1963. The report is prepared in accordance with Circular 1 64.

Samples were taken of selected foodstuffs during the year. One complaint was received of a slice of bread containing a live maggot. A thorough investigation was carried out but it was unnecessary to take legal proceedings.

This is now the third successive year in which no applications have been received for Certificates of Disrepair under the Rent Act 1957.

There has been a slight increase in the number of applications for Improvement Grants. Applications for Standard Grants totalled 26 and for Discretionary Grants 13. In the case of the Discretionary Grants the lowest amount payable by the Council was £162. The total contribution made by the Council for all Discretionary Grants was £2,837.5.0d.

At the time of writing this report the new Housing Bill is before Parliament, and we are given to understand that the procedure for the improvement of houses is to be amended so that local authorities will be able to arrange for the improvement of blocks of property, thus preventing many solidly built terraced houses from further deterioration and ultimate condemnation. This is a step in the right direction, for it is better to spend a modest sum of money in modernisation at the right time than allow property to become so dilapidated that the cost of improvement is prohibitive and condemnation is the only answer.

Owing to inadequate staff we found it difficult during the year to carry out as many routine inspections of food premises as is necessary to maintain satisfactory standards, but elsewhere in the report will be found details of the inspections made of bakehouses, markets and stalls and food premises generally. I am convinced that the regular inspection of food premises is the only way of ensuring that food is stored, prepared and sold hygienically the salutary effect of an official visit cannot be over estimated.

During the year the building of the new Abattoir for the Leek and District Retail Butchers' Association was commenced and it is to be hoped that this will be ready during the Spring of 1964.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960. Although there were only three specific complaints of nuisance under this Act, they entailed a considerable number of visits often between the hours of 9.0 p.m. and midnight.

In one case the complaint related to night shift working and was due to the noise and vibration from the machinery in use, together

with the shouting, whistling and singing of the men. The firm concerned decided that rather than go to the expense of insulating the machinery and building a baffle wall, they would remove this part of their activity to one of their other depots, thus abating the nuisance.

In both the other cases, which again was night shift working, the nuisance was being caused by braiding machines and measures taken for reducing this to the minimum consisted of double glazing and the sealing off of ventilators giving on to the property adjoining. This of course brought its own difficulties particularly during the summer nights when the operatives complained of having to work under conditions which did not allow of adequate ventilation.

CLEAN AIR ACT. One application was received for prior approval under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act. After thorough investigation I recommended that prior approval be given.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT. A serious Public Health nuisance was dealt with during the year which necessitated taking legal proceedings. A man living alone had vacated his bedroom in order to accommodate a number of laying hens. He had not even taken the precautions of emptying the room of its usual contents, i.e. bedstead, dressing table, chest of drawers etc. and the condition of the room was indescribable. I successfully obtained an Abatement Order from the Magistrates but although he actually removed the fowl no action was taken to clean up the premises. A further summons was taken out and the Magistrates fined the man three pounds with one guinea costs. Eventually the house was cleansed and the nuisance abated.

During the year 14 hand flushed closets were provided with proper flushing arrangements, the Council making a contribution of one half the cost or five guineas, whichever was the lesser amount.

I am pleased to report that the controlled tipping being carried out at Starewood has been very satisfactory and no complaints of public health nuisance have been received. The Rodent Operative visits at very frequent intervals to ensure that rats are not present on the tip. By this means we are able to prevent rats from establishing themselves in the tip face thus avoiding the necessity for extensive treatment at a later date.

MEAT INSPECTIONS REGULATIONS 1963. These regulations came into force on the 1st October, 1963 and related to the inspection and the marking of meat passed as fit for human consumption and the charges the local authorities may make towards the cost of the meat inspection service. A full report on these regulations was reported to the Health Committee and it was decided to charge for the meat inspection service.

OFFICE, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963. This Act received the Royal Assent during the year but as the main provisions do not come into operation until the 1st May, 1964, and the 1st August, 1964, more will be said in the annual report for 1964.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES. There are 23 conveniences in the district, 12 for men and 11 for women. Occasionally complaints were received from people passing through the town on the condition of the ladies conveniences. Although these toilets are cleansed daily the misuse to which they are subject gives cause for complaint towards the end of the day. As the majority of complaints are in connection with the toilets in the Market Place, I am pleased to report that the

Markets and Estates Committee have decided to demolish these and in lieu are building a modern toilet block. The misuse and vandalism of public conveniences is a national scandal and short of having someone constantly on duty it appears very little can be done to maintain them in a proper and wholesome condition.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, I should like to avail myself of the opportunity here presented to thank the Staff of the Department for their continued loyalty and co-operation.

J. ROWBOTHAM,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION D

REFUSE COLLECTION

Four vehicles were engaged solely on the collection of house refuse and 3,679 loads were removed and tipped on the Starewood site during the year.

SALVAGE

390 tons of cardboard and waste paper were salvaged and sold bringing a total of £3,309. This is a very creditable performance and an extremely useful addition to the Council's income.

The following table gives in detail the sanitary inspection of the town.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE TOWN

1.	Premises cleansed and repaired	134
2.	Drains tested	103
3.	Drains reconstructed	13
4.	Drains repaired	27
5.	Drains cleansed	36
6.	Water closets cleansed	3
7.	Water closets repaired	5
8.	Water closets reconstructed	2
9.	Flushing arrangements provided	—
10.	Waste pipes altered or repaired	5
11.	Rainwater pipes repaired	3
12.	Roofs and gutters repaired	6
13.	Additional ventilation provided	—
14.	Additional light provided	—
15.	Damp conditions remedied	10
16.	Yards drained and paved	1
17.	Dustbins provided	19
18.	Fireplaces provided or repaired	2
19.	Coppers provided or repaired	—
20.	Cases of overcrowding abated	—
21.	Accumulations of manure, etc., removed	11
22.	Smoke nuisances	16

23.	Cesspools cleansed	7
24.	Rooms disinfected	17
25.	Privies converted into water closets	
26.	Staircases repaired	
27.	Handrails provided	
28.	Windows repaired	2
29.	Floors repaired	1
30.	Walls and ceilings repaired	9
31.	Food storage provided	1
32.	Water supply provided or repaired	5
33.	Sinks provided	
34.	Doors repaired	
35.	Back doors provided	
36.	Walls pointed	1
37.	Chimney stacks repaired	2
38.	Other nuisances	13
39.	Septic tanks provided	
40.	Houses connected to sewer and septic tanks abolished	
41.	Persons in need of "care and attention"	
42.	Noise nuisances	6
43.	Animals improperly kept	1
		419

No. of preliminary notices served	68
No. of preliminary notices complied with, without the service of statutory notices	61
No. of statutory notices served	7
No. of statutory notices complied with	1
Proceedings in Court	1

DETAILS OF OTHER INSPECTIONS

Nuisances reported to Health Department	274
" referred to other Departments	7
Inspection of Premises where nuisances were found	193
" of Premises where no nuisances were found	3
" of Factories	23
" of Slaughterhouses	804
" of Dairies, Milk Shops and Farms	13
" of Bakehouses	24
" of Markets and Stalls	91
" of Food Premises	480
Re-inspections after complaints	921
" under Housing Acts	804
Visits under Clean Air Act	120
Visits re Food Poisoning	80
Visits re Theatre etc., Acts	22
Visits re Petroleum Regulations	36
Miscellaneous visits	1021
Infectious diseases	314
	5055

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

The Council's caravan site at Ashbourne Croft has now been run-down and the site is now ready for re-development.

There are no problems locally concerning tents, vans and sheds.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council employ one full time Rodent Operative for the destruction of Rats, Mice and other pests in business premises, private dwelling houses, public sewers and the Town Tip. Details of the inspections and treatments are as follows:—

Private dwellings:

138	inspections
123	treatments
642	visits

3rd Party Premises:

52	inspections
40	treatments
263	visits

Town Tip:

38	inspections
27	treatments
165	visits

Local Authority Premises:

8	inspections
8	treatments
30	visits

The Council have 8 contracts with private firms for the eradication of rats, mice and other pests. These premises are visited periodically and appropriate action taken where infestations are found.

SHOPS ACTS

On a number of occasions the attention of shopkeepers was drawn to the Hours of Closing Act, and on occasions, warnings were given for minor contraventions.

No proceedings were instituted.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Number of premises on register	143
Number of inspections during the year	24
Number of cases in which defects were found	6
Number of cases in which defects were remedied during the year	5

SECTION E

HOUSING

Action under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957 was taken in respect of 26 houses, situated in Compton, Buxton Road, Silk Street and St. Edward Street.

No Clearance Areas were declared during 1963.

During the year a considerable amount of work was done in reviewing the properties still requiring attention under our initial five year programme. Opportunity was taken at the same time to revise

the programme so that the same can be co-ordinated with the Council's programme of house building.

13 houses were demolished during the year following action under Section 17 of the Act. In addition 32 houses comprising a Clearance Area together with ancillary buildings were also demolished.

In accordance with Circular 12/62 in which the Minister asked Local Authorities to consider the advantages of a systematic approach to improvement, a survey was made of five streets in the area in order to gain some idea of the number which possessed the five standard amenities. The results of this survey were tabulated and presented to the Health Committee. It was decided that no action be taken.

HOUSE LETTING

During the year 87 families were rehoused, 11 in connection with the Slum Clearance Scheme. During the same period, the Housing Committee agreed to 35 families exchanging their accommodation for other more suitable to their needs.

374 private interviews were granted to persons who wished to discuss their housing problems.

On the Housing Applications Register at December 31st, 1963, there were 401 applications for houses and flats and 189 for bungalows, and a further 65 applications had been deposited and were awaiting the expiration of the qualifying period of 9 months.

It should be put on record that during the year, as previously, the Housing Committee have dealt with the task of tenant selection in a most humane way and the countless hours the Members of the Committee have devoted to this work is worthy of the highest praise.

SECTION F

FOOD SAMPLES

39 samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis with the following results: 35 Grade I, 1 Grade II, 3 Grade III.

64 samples of meat products and other foodstuffs were similarly taken and all were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED

Assorted foodstuffs	184 tins 15 pkts.
Ham	67½ lbs.
Corned Beef	16½ lbs.
Shoulder Pork	11 lbs.
Pork Luncheon Meat	4½ lbs.
Jellied Veal	18 lbs.
Ox Tongue	18 lbs.
Fish	28 lbs.

MEAT

There was only one slaughterhouse in use during the year and 301 visits were made for the purpose of inspecting a total of 5,751 carcases.

These comprised 859 Prime Cattle, 21 Cows, 17 Calves, 3,648 Sheep and Lambs and 1,206 Pigs. This give an average of 184.5 units per month.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Prime Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	859	21	17	3648	1206
Number inspected	859	21	17	3648	1206
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:					
Whole carcases condemned				3	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	121	7		111	97
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	13.97%	34.28%	Nil	3.86%	
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—				14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		—		—	1.24%
CYSTICERCOSIS:					
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2			—	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2				
Generalised and totally condemned ...		—			—
Percentage affected by Cysticercus Bovis	0.21%		—	—	—

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CARCASES CONDEMNED WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION

	CATTLE		SHEEP	
	Whole carcase and all Offal	Meat	Whole carcase and all offal	Meat
CYSTICERCUS BOVIS	2			
INJURY			1	
PERITONITIS				
Total	2		1	

	CALVES	PIGS
GENERALISED TUBERCULOSIS		1
FEATERED CONDITION		1
Total		2

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF ORGANS CONDEMNED WITH CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION

LUNGS:	CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
Pneumonia	3			57
Pleurisy	5			
Parasites	9		61	3
Contaminated	2			7
Melanosis	2			
Hydated Cyst	2			
Total	23		61	67
LIVERS:				
Angioma	1			
Abscesses	31			
Cirrhosis and Necrosis	9			16
Fatty Degeneration	1			
Distomatosis	63		80	
Cysts	3			
Total	108		80	16
HEADS AND TONGUES:				
Tuberculosis				14
Actinomycosis	10			
Abscesses	1			
Total	11			14
PLUCKS:				
Pneumonia				2
Inflamation	—	—	—	2
Total				4

All the meat and offals condemned are stained green with an indeliable dye and then removed for processing into fertilisers.

CLEAN AIR ACT

No further positive action was taken in 1963 to implement the provisions of the Clean Air Act by the declaration of Smoke Control Areas.

During the year construction began on the Wallbridge estate of a number of houses with heating arrangements appropriate to a Smoke Control Area. No doubt these will have a good effect in demonstrating the advantages of Clean Air, and will foster the extension of clean air legislation to the rest of the town.

Some of the industrial chimneys are still not conforming to the provisions of the Act, but it should not be long before all do so. New installations are now approved by the Council and are of suitable types to promote smoke free air. The most noticeable change is the rapid increase in the use of oil as a fuel, both for domestic heating and for industrial use. A number of gas-fired central heating plants have been installed for domestic purposes and this fuel appeals to many people on the grounds of convenience and cleanliness.

The recording stations were operated throughout the year, and the results forwarded to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, from whom in return we received summaries of technical literature and the readings of similar stations in the many other towns participating in this research programme.

The recording stations consist of two standard deposit gauges, which measure the extent of pollution falling from the air on to a given area, and a smoke and sulphur dioxide recorder. This latter instrument records the quantity of polluting matter actually floating in the air, expressed as microgrammes per cubic metre of air. This is the pollution which we actually inhale, most noticeably in fog or "smog". The sulphur dioxide is produced when most types of fuel are burnt, and is another important source of irritation to the lungs and damage to buildings.

Recordings of these instruments are appended.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION RECORDINGS

Three stations for recording atmospheric pollution have been set up in Leek, two being standard deposit gauges and one a smoke sulphur dioxide recorder.

SMOKE SULPHUR DIOXIDE:

Figures are in micrograms per cubic metre.

	Smoke		So2	
	Highest	Lowest	Highest	Lowest
January	874	82	714	130
February	343	160	429	217
March	526	37	456	73
April	281	29	292	83
May	143	58	170	65
June	149	10	159	40
July	116	31	129	67
August	167	29	120	34
September	276	120	187	104
October	765	58	243	76
November	463	48	358	125
December	760	92	503	80
Average	405	545	313	91

STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES:—

All figures are in tons per square mile per month.

	FOXLOWE SITE			EAST STREET SITE		
	Insoluble Deposits	Soluable Deposits	Total Deposits	Insoluble Deposits	Soluble Deposits	Total Deposits
January	0.8	3.8	4.6	1.2	2.9	4.1
February	2.4	2.6	5.0	1.2	2.8	4.0
March	7.8	7.2	15.0	8.2	5.5	13.7
April	4.4	5.0	9.4	5.9	7.9	13.8
May	4.9	6.8	11.7	6.7	5.5	12.8
June	7.4	3.5	10.9	4.2	2.7	6.9
July	2.1	3.3	5.4	3.9	3.5	7.4
August	5.1	2.8	7.9	3.8	2.5	6.3
September	2.2	1.5	3.7	4.6	2.1	6.7
October	5.6	3.4	9.0	13.4	3.6	17.0
November	3.5	6.3	9.8	3.0	5.8	8.8
December	3.5	3.3	6.8	3.4	3.5	6.9
Average	4.31	4.29	8.6	4.96	4.70	9.66

From these figures it will be seen that 60 tons of matter fell on each square mile of the Urban area during 1963.